



Forward Observer



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**Distributed to the employees of the U.S. Army Simulation Training and Instrumentation Command (STRICOM)*
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Happy Holidays from the Commander

Greetings and Salutations!

Now that the Holiday Season is in full swing, with carols playing over speakers and bright lights in homes and offices, not to mention frantic shoppers running from store to store, and toe-tapping long lines at the post office, we should always remember the very essence of the holidays. The most important part is to remember the holidays give us the promise of new life as well as the opportunity to give thanks for our many blessings. The celebration of life and for the gifts we all share is the most joyous when spent with those most important to you, your family and friends. Please take the time to reconnect and be close.



As we approach the New Millenium, please pause a moment to reflect upon the freedom we enjoy and remember Soldiers around the world, On Point for our Nation, protecting that freedom. A life of their choice, for one, am thankful for their choice.

Also, during this Holiday Season remember to be smart and play it safe. If you drink, Please do not drive.

In closing out this wonderful year of achievement, thank you for all that you do to make this Nation, our Army and our Soldiers better. Have a Joyous Season, and I look forward to serving with you in the New Year and Millenium!

Respectfully yours, Seay

Stephen M. Seay
Brigadier General, USA
Commanding



STRICOM in the NEWS

This month's issue of Military Training Technology (MT2) should be re-titled the STRICOM Issue.

The magazine features Brigadier General Stephen M. Seay with a 3-D cover appearance as well as a question and answer piece. The magazine is filled with stories about STRICOM and also mentions NAWCT (Naval Air Warfare Center) and the ICT (Institute for Creative Technologies).

BG Seay's one-on-one interview discusses STRICOM's mission, challenges, and important technological trends. It presents a longer view of where STRICOM has been and where it is going.

Another story, *Virtual Reality-STRICOM's training revolution*, discusses the roles of entertainment, academia, and military in the world of simulation. STRICOM's partnership with the ICT is highlighted allowing readers to view the mission and the people behind it.

MT2 also includes the story, *STOC-enabling the fast pace of transformation*, which gives an overview of the \$4 billion, 8 year contract structured in lots for each of the command's business domains: live, virtual, constructive, and test-instrumentation.

So sit back, get comfortable and don't forget to don those sharp looking camouflage 3-D glasses for articles that will jump out at you.



The Training and Simulation 2000 (T&S 2000) magazine was not going to be out done. They too featured STRICOM in several articles this month.

T&S 2000 ran an article titled, *Training System Acquisition Chiefs' priorities - Three Service Perspectives*. The article featured BG Seay, Capt. Gagnon and Col. Buranosky ran discussing their perspectives on the role simulation should play for the warfighter, the Commander, and the resource manager.

Another story featured COL Craig Hanford and his work in PM TRADE and MOUT.

An article about Embedded, Simulation on the Bradley was written by Mr. James Skurka.

And finally T&S 2000 ran a story about the STRICOM Omnibus Contract (STOC).



TURKEY BOWL

The sixth annual Turkey Bowl proved to be down to the wire for both teams. The game took place at University High School on November 16.

Army kicked off to Navy. On the first play from scrimmage the Navy team's quarterback, under a fierce rush from MAJ Rick Stroyan, threw a pass that was intercepted by Army linebacker William Jones and returned to the Navy 10-yard line. Army scored and tacked on the extra point to take a 7-0 lead. Shortly thereafter the Navy drove down the field and scored to make it 7-6. Army scored again in the second quarter on a long pass play up the sideline from quarterback Travis Fitzgerald to Pat Concilio. The extra point attempt failed and the Army team led 13-6. The Navy matched the Army once again and scored to make the game 13-12. The Army drove down the field and was unsuccessful with a long pass into the end zone and time expired in the first half of play.



The two teams traded scores once again in the third quarter and the Army led 19-18 late in the fourth. With 2 minutes remaining the Army was unsuccessful in an attempt to seal the game with a fourth down conversion and the Navy drove down and scored to take the lead with 1 minute left on the clock. The Navy then converted a two-point attempt to make the score 26-19. The Army staged an impressive last minute drive from its own 17-yard line and scored to make the game 26-25 with only a few seconds remaining. The Army team went for the win with a 2-point conversion attempt of its own but the Navy intercepted the Army's pass at the goal line to secure the 26-25 victory.

THE ARMY TEAM

BILLY BARNES
PAT CONCILIO
WILLIAM JONES
ED STEAD
MIKE WRIGHT

AFAMS
STRICOM
STRICOM
STRICOM
STRICOM

RICK COPELAND	STRICOM
TRAVIS FITZGERALD	STRICOM
TONY MARTIN	AFAMS
RICK STROYAN	STRICOM
SCOTT SISTARE	AFAMS



Giving Back to the Community:

Junior Achievement Program

The Junior Achievement Program in conjunction with STRICOM has concluded for the current semester. This 8-week program was designed for 7th grade (Our World) and 8th grade (Personal Economics). The STRICOM volunteer, CPT Scott Meehan, who works at WARSIM OneSAF, taught four classes once a week at Faith Christian Academy. Each class averaged 18 students. He did not mind the class environment because it is one of his professions. CPT Meehan's Undergraduate degree is in Secondary Education (Social Studies). "It's always good to get back into the classroom (trenches) with the students." Helping the youth stimulate a desire and ambition to learn new skills to further their development in life is always gratifying."

The curriculum for 7th grade emphasized International marketing and trade. CPT Meehan along with 2 teachers divided the 2 classes into 9 groups. Their objective was to start an international business involving trade of a student selected resource. Among the requirements were choosing the product to trade the country to trade with, determine the cost and distance between Orlando and their country's capital city, and their currency exchange rate. In addition, they had to do research into their country's laws, culture, and economic state.

The 8th grade curriculum focused on personal marketing, i.e. resumes, interviews, advanced education, budgeting, etc. Their focus was to establish their basic interest and show how it can eventually develop into a career with the proper education. Activities included, keeping a check book, planning a family budget, and making personal business cards, among other things. They learned about using credit (the advantages and disadvantages), loans, mutual funds, and savings.

All 72 students along with 4 teachers and one parent went on a field trip to the ITSEC conference at the Orlando Convention Center. All of them seemed to be fascinated by the displays, and of course the "giveaways." CPT Meehan awarded students with a certificate of Achievement for their accomplishment.



VETERAN'S DAY PARADE

On November 11 the Central Florida area paid tribute to the men and women who have served our country with the “first annual” Veterans Day parade. This held great significance because it was the first Veterans Day Parade in Orlando since 1983. It honored more than 300,000 Central Florida military veterans, active duty, reserve military and National Guard members for their service.

The parade was just under 1-½ miles in length and featured military units, floats, marching bands, high school ROTC members, antique automobiles, and a replica of the Liberty Bell. More than 700 veterans took part in the parade as well as presentations by equestrian and traditional honor guards.

In 1921, an unknown World War I American soldier was buried in Arlington National Cemetery. This site, on a hillside overlooking the Potomac River and the city of Washington, became the focal point of reverence for America's veterans. Similar ceremonies occurred earlier in England and France, where an unknown soldier was buried. These memorial gestures all took place on recognition to the celebrated ending of World War I fighting at 11 a.m., November 11, 1918. This day became known as “Armistice Day.”

Only a year after the holiday was proclaimed, war broke out in Europe. An answer to the question of how to pay tribute to those who had served in this latest, Great War came in a proposal made by Representative Edwin K. Rees of Kansas. Mr. Rees felt that America should change the name of Armistice Day to Veterans Day, and make it an occasion to honor those who have served in all wars. In 1954 President Eisenhower signed a bill proclaiming November 11 as Veterans Day.



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